

Publication details

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Approvals record

Approvers (name and role)	Business Unit / Agency	Date

Designated Registered Nurse (RN) Prescriber Prescribing Agreement

This agreement fulfills the requirements of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) [Registration Standard: Endorsement for scheduled medicines - designated registered nurse prescriber](#). It is a key component of the designated RN prescriber role as outlined in the NMBA standard and *insert local jurisdictional policy/ guideline or supporting resource*. The agreement must be signed by all parties, including a representative of the authorising organisation.

Key Points

Prescribing Agreement

A designated RN prescribing agreement is a written agreement between the designated RN prescriber and authorised health practitioner/s approved by the employer. The agreement clearly documents the role of both parties. A copy of the prescribing agreement is to be retained by the designated RN prescriber, the authorised health practitioner/s and the employer.

Authorised health practitioner

An authorised health practitioner is a registered health practitioner who is an authorised autonomous prescriber, for example a medical practitioner or a nurse practitioner. More than one authorised health practitioner may work with the designated RN prescriber. One authorised health practitioner may work with more than one the designated RN prescriber.

Scope of Practice

The scope of practice of an individual RN is that to which they are educated, competent and authorised to perform within regulatory and organisational frameworks. An individual's scope of practice is also determined by the employer's requirements, the health needs of people and practice context.

The prescribing agreement is informed by and supports the designated RN prescriber's scope of practice. It provides clarity for the designated RN prescriber, the authorised health practitioner, the organisation and other members of the multidisciplinary team.

Accountability

The designated RN prescriber is responsible and accountable for prescribing within their scope of practice and authorisation.

Roles and Responsibilities

Responsibilities of the designated RN prescriber

- Comply with all relevant NMBA standards, codes, and guidelines, as well as relevant statewide and local policies
- Clearly define and work within their scope of clinical practice when prescribing scheduled medicines.
- Work with the authorised health practitioner/s to establish the prescribing agreement.
- Prescribe in accordance with their approved prescribing agreement and its specifications.
- Maintain proficiency in current practices related to the health conditions and medicines in their prescribing agreement.
- Consider their level of knowledge, skills, competence and scope of practice when making clinical decisions, escalating care when necessary.
- Consult with and refer to authorised health practitioner partner/s or other relevant health practitioners if care or prescribing falls outside their competence or scope.
- Maintain collaborative, professional relationships with prescribing partners, including agreed communication and escalation processes.
- Participate in clinical mentorship for 6 months post the commencement of prescribing practice.
- Participate in monitoring and audit related to prescribing practice.
- Engage in the annual review of the prescribing agreement.
- Retain / store the prescribing agreement as per employers' requirements.

Responsibilities of authorised health practitioner prescribing partner

- Understand the scope of practice and competence of the designated RN prescriber.
- Maintain awareness of the approved conditions outlined in the designated RN prescriber's approved prescribing agreement.
- Collaborate to establish and maintain the prescribing agreement, including agreed communication and clinical escalation processes.
- Maintain a professional and collaborative prescribing relationship, accepting referrals and / or providing advice when care is outside the RN's scope of practice.
- Participate in the annual review of the prescribing agreement.
- Notify the designated RN prescriber and employer in writing if ceasing the prescribing agreement.

For further information

- [Guidelines for registered nurses applying for and with the endorsement for scheduled medicines - designated registered nurse prescriber](#)
 - [Fact Sheet: Registration standard: Endorsement for scheduled medicines – designated registered nurse prescriber](#)
 - *Jurisdictional Designated Registered Nurse Prescribing policy/ guideline or supporting resource*
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Prescribing Agreement

Demographic Information	
Designated RN prescriber <i>(Name and Title)</i>	
NMBA endorsement details <i>(Registration number, initial date of endorsement)</i>	
Employee number	
Authorised health practitioner/s <i>(Name, title, role, registration number – noting there may be more than one authorised health practitioner prescribing partner)</i>	
Prescribing agreement review date	
Name and address of organisation <i>(Location and facility)</i>	
Clinical service/s <i>(e.g. Palliative Care)</i>	
Clinical Service Director (or equivalent)	

(Name and title)	
Line manager (optional) (Name and title)	
Clinical mentorship details	Clinical Mentorship Agreement in place: Yes/No Start date: End date:
Scope of Practice	
Postgraduate education and training relevant to designated prescribing role <i>(e.g. Graduate certificate in Palliative Care)</i>	
Scope of practice <i>(When, where, how and with whom with the designated RN prescriber provide care and prescribe scheduled medicines?)</i>	Outline the role of the designated RN prescriber within the clinical service/s and as part of the multidisciplinary team, including the model/s of care in which they will be authorised to prescribe scheduled medicines. (Insert relevant link to clinical service information if applicable)
Specific Prescribing Conditions	
Prescribing scope	General Prescribing Guidance

Prescribes medicines in accordance with the [Quality Use of Medicines](#); the [National Prescribing Framework](#); the *insert local legislation and /or formulary or similar*.

Use current best practice guidelines, medication reference texts and local procedures or protocols to support safe prescribing including but not limited to [Therapeutic Guidelines](#) , [Australian Medicines Handbook](#), [Australian Injectable Drug Handbook](#). This includes adherence to opioid and/ or antimicrobial stewardship principles and local approval processes.

Authorised Medical Conditions and Indications

The designated RN prescriber may commence, continue or cease medications to manage the following conditions and indications as listed below (can list multiple).

Medical Conditions and Indications

Authorised Medicines

The designated RN prescriber may commence, continue and/ or cease medications within their scope of practice using their clinical judgement and in consultation with their authorised health practitioner prescribing partner/s as listed below.

Medicines specified cannot exceed the authorised health practitioner’s scope of practice.

(Document Schedule 8 medicines in separate section below)

List of medications – Therapeutic Classification *(as per insert local formulary or similar)*

Medicine - Therapeutic Class	New (Yes/No)	Continuing Therapy (Yes/No)	Cease (Yes/No)	Exclusions

Schedule 8 medicines

The designated RN prescriber is authorised to prescribe Schedule 8 medications in accordance with the *insert local legislation and /or regulation*.

The designated RN prescriber is authorised to prescribe the listed Schedule 8 (S8) medicines for the following conditions/indications within the specified limitations.

The medicines specified must be within the scope of practice of the authorised health practitioner/s.

S8 Medicine	Conditions/Indications	Exclusions/Limitations

Prescribing Enablers	
Real Time Prescription Monitoring	The designated RN prescriber is responsible for checking <i>insert local Realtime prescribing system</i> prior to prescribing monitored medicines.
Escalation processes	
Clinical Escalation	In the event of clinical deterioration designated RN prescribers must follow their local escalation processes and ensure all local emergency and clinical policies, procedures and protocols are followed.
Clinical Dispute Resolution	<p>Non urgent clinical</p> <p>Where dispute arises regarding the clinical management of a consumer, which is non time critical, escalation should occur to the prescribing partner or responsible treating medical or nurse practitioner.</p> <p>Urgent clinical</p> <p>Where dispute arises regarding the management of a consumer which impacts safety, escalation must occur via the organisations emergency response system.</p> <p>Consider reporting any disputes via the clinical incident reporting system as per locally agreed processes.</p>
Professional Dispute Resolution	Where dispute arises regarding the designated RNs scope of practice, prescribing authority or professional responsibility escalation must occur to the designated RN prescriber’s direct manager, employer or agreement holder.
Monitoring	
Safety and Quality Governance Processes	Uses existing safety and quality governance processes to review prescribing practices in alignment with local policy and procedures.

Approvals

All Parties:	Designated Registered Nurse Prescriber	Authorised Health Practitioner
Have discussed the purpose of the above prescribing agreement in accordance with the designated registered nurse prescriber's scope of practice and requirements of the NMBA registration standard: Endorsement for scheduled medicines – designated registered nurse prescriber .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have discussed and agreed on the designated registered nurse prescriber's scope of practice and their role as a prescriber within this defined scope.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have discussed and agreed on a partnership framework including expectations and boundaries of the prescribing agreement.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have discussed and agreed to the process for consultation and escalation of care inclusive of referral to other relevant health practitioner's when care requirements are outside the scope of practice of the designated registered nurse prescriber.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Designated Registered Nurse Prescriber	Signature	Date
Name:		
Position:		
Authorised Health Practitioner	Signature	Date
Name:		
Position:		
Authorised Health Practitioner (Secondary – Optional)	Signature	Date
Name:		
Position:		
<i>(note: approvals signatures continue next page)</i>		

Line Manager (Nursing)	Signature	Date
Name:		
Position:		
Service/Site Director (or equivalent organisational representative)	Signature	Date
Name:		
Position:		
